

Dates to Remember:

3/2	Employee Appreci-
	ation Day

3/11 Daylight Savings

3/17 St. Patrick's Day

3/20 Spring Solstice

4/1 Easter

4/17 Tax Day

5/1 Law Day

5/5 Cinco de Mayo

5/19 Armed Forces Day

5/25 Missing Children's Day

5/28 Memorial Day

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Yuma County Juvenile Justice Center

The Express



First Quarter

March 2018

Tim Hardy Sworn in as the President Elect of APPA

Reaching the pinnacle of his career, Juvenile Court Director Tim D. Hardy was sworn in on August 30 as the President-Elect of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) at the association's annual training institute in New York City.

The association is international in nature, composed of 90,000 members from the United States, Canada and other countries actively involved with pre-trial, probation, parole and community-based corrections, in both criminal and juvenile justice arenas.

This represents a six-year commitment, as Hardy will begin serving as the president in 2019 and the Past President in 2021. The only other Arizonans to be so honored were Barbara Broderick from Maricopa County Adult Probation and

Kath Waters, now a Division Director with the Arizona Supreme Court.

Tim has been the Juvenile Court Director, as well as a member of APPA, for 20 years, and had served as a Regional Director of the four-state area including Arizona since 2012.

In his application for the position, Hardy stated that his vision was to integrate the four Safety Elements of Kids at Hope, which are:

- Physical Safety: Ensuring that the best safety policies and practices are in place for both professionals and clients.
- 2. **Emotional Safety:**Recognizing and addressing the emotional stress and other personal challenges within the probation and pa-



Tim D. Hardy

role profession, in addition to offering support to clients who are struggling.

- 3. Intellectual Safety:
 Encouraging, supporting and recognizing the importance wherein all professionals feel their experience, knowledge and ideas are honored, appreciated and advanced.
- 4. **Economic Safety:**Advocating for and advancing the importance of professional compensation.

Hardy also stated that it was important to foster excellent relationships between Juvenile and Adult Probation and Parole by offering more training that can be applied at all levels.

In an interview with the Yuma Sun, Tim stated, "I've had a lot of rewarding things in my career, but this is probably the highest honor I've received, and also the most humbling."



Tim Hardy being sworn in at APPA in New York City

The Sundial: Yuma's Future in Delinquency

From the May 8, 1953 issue of the Yuma Daily Sun

Some grumbles here and there have been heard over the appointment of Jack Valentine as "temporary probation officer."

Perhaps the use of this title is somewhat ill-advised.

As The Sun understands it, Mr. Valentine was not selected to perform the specific duties of a probation officer, but simply to

assist Judge Kelly wherever possible with juvenile problems. This, in addition to the more important task of forming a community coordinating council, which many other cities across the nation have found invaluable.

A juvenile delinquency program is nothing new to Yuma, Judge Kelly and Mrs. Henrietta Morgan have been doing an outstanding job on these problems for years. But, Yuma has grown—and so have its delinquency problems.

VOICES FROM THE PAST

It is now time for the formation of a coordinating council—on which every club, civic group, and interested individual in town—together with the churches, can be represented and which will discuss juvenile problems and call for a well-trained probation officer in Yuma.

The creation of this position in the 1953-54 budget would give Yuma a chance to control delinquency before it becomes a major problem.

Kelly Tells Coordinating Council He'll Appoint Probation Officer

From the October 29, 1953 issue of the Arizona Sentinel

Judge Henry C. Kelly stated last night at a meeting of the Yuma Area Coordinating Council that he would appoint a qualified applicant to the position of Yuma County Probation Officer. Judge Kelly said that he had requested and been granted a substantial increase in July in the county budget for that purpose.

However, since that time, he said, he has been under constant pressure to make the appointment. Judge Kelly said that he does not want to be forced into making an unfortunate appointment and stated he felt that the juvenile delinquency problem as it has existed in the past, and even as it exists today, does not necessitate undue excitement over the immediate appointment of a juvenile probation officer. He added though, that due to the constant expansion that Yuma is undergoing, there will definitely be a need for at least one such officer in the near future.

Judge Kelly complimented Mrs. Henrietta Morgan on the admirable job she has done to lessen juvenile delinquency in the city. He said that he felt that Mrs. Morgan has been entirely adequate in her handling of the juvenile situation.

In his discussion of the appointment of a juvenile officer, Judge Kelly stated that he would be very interested in knowing that his decision was favorable in the eyes of persons who were sincerely interested in the problem.

Frank Wick, chairman of the Yuma Area Coordinating Council, pointed out the fact that since 1928, the nation has shown a 29 percent increase in juvenile delinquency, with an alarming increase since the Korean police action.

Judge Kelly stated that while the selection should be made entirely on a basis of qualification, and very definitely not by political solicitation, he would be very interested in obtaining the names of any potential applicant that might be suggested by an organization or group. Also present at last night's meeting was Mrs. Russell of the Arizona State Psychiatric Hospital. She was sent to last night's meeting at the suggestion of Dr. Conway, State Superintendent of Health, to make recommendations concerning the choice of a probation officer.

Mrs. Russell brought out the fact that the selection of a probation officer entails considerably more than the selection of a well meaning, well-thought-of citizen. An extensive background in human relations and social problems is a vital factor, she said, and instead of an agency seeking to discipline juvenile delinquents, she said that a juvenile probation officer should be responsible for supporting parents and children through their difficulties.

In speaking of Yuma County's need for a probation officer, Mrs. Russell said that 70 persons is the maximum that one such officer could efficiently handle. And on the strength of that figure, stated that Yuma County had need for more than one probation officer.

The Juvenile Court Recognizes Another Group of Retirees

Once again, the Juvenile Court has had to deal with the reality of its outstanding employees deciding to enter into retirement. While presenting quite a challenge, this is not a negative, as it demonstrates the kind of working environment that encourages people to continue working for twenty years or more in an extremely difficult and challenging field.

Sherri Justice

If anyone exemplified the Kids at Hope philosophy at the juvenile court, it was Sherri Justice. She cared about and connected with people and was able to get them to respond in ways that no one else could.



And, when she retired on August 31, 2017, she made it clear that she wanted to come back as a volunteer to give back to the organization.

After being hired as a juvenile probation officer on January 8, 1991, Sherri went on to hold nearly every probation position there was over the next 26 years. She served stints in standard probation and diversion, was a court probation officer, a school probation officer, a lead officer in intensive probation and supervised parolees and a specialized sex offender caseload. In 2008, Sherri was promoted to the position of Probation Officer II.

Sherri helped develop and coordinated the Teen Court program, helped implement the Juvenile All Weekend Supervision (JAWS) program and was the electronic monitoring coordinator for a time.

In later years, Sherri was the first probation officer assigned to the innovative Change Begins With Me community restitution program and participated in the development of the Successful Futures life skills probation program. And, at the time

of her retirement, she was doing outstanding work in the Hope Assessment Center.

Sherri was also a trainer for the department, particularly in the areas of defensive tactics and motivational interviewing. Not only could she do just about anything, she was able to teach others to do it, as well. It should come as no surprise that Sherri was also voted the probation officer of the year in both 2009 and 2015.

Ranee Arviso

A graduate of Yuma High School, Ranee Arviso began her career as a juvenile detention officer on June 28, 1999. She quickly became a solid, dependable officer who could be counted upon to do the right thing in any situation.



In 2003, she was named the detention officer of the quarter and in 2006, she was selected by the entire staff of the juvenile court as the detention officer of the year.

In 2010, Ranee was promoted to Detention Officer II. It was noted that she was able to run shifts as lead officer without any problem. She was very positive without outside agencies. Ranee was also seen by detention and probation as the go to person for questions or getting a task accomplished.

Ranee also became a field training officer, training new officers on such subjects as Verbal De-Escalation, Boundaries and Relationships, Bio Hazard, and Blood Borne Pathogens.

Ranee retired from the Juvenile Court on January 8, 2018, before she was able to reach her goal of becoming a Detention Officer III. She would have done well and will be sorely missed.

Irma Torres

Irma Torres came to the Juvenile Court from the Yuma County Fi-

nance Office on September 5, 2006 as a Financial Services Specialist II.

A graduate of Kofa High School, she also took accounting classes at Laramie County Community College in



Laramie, Wyoming and Arizona Western College. As part of a military family, Irma did quite a bit of traveling, living in Alaska and Panama.

Irma was very good at her job, forcing the county's financial computer system to work and keeping track of a whirlwind of expenditures and receipts that would have driven a less gifted person insane. She was also a bit of bulldog, although in a quiet way, in getting probation supervisors to make year-end purchases in a timely manner.

Although she spend much of her time hidden away in the administrative section of the facility, she came to be seen as the person to count on when money was on the line.

Irma was finally recognized for her efforts in 2011, when she was selected as the department's employee of the quarter.

Irma retired on January 26, 2018 to devote more time to her real passion—her church. As a pastor's wife, she has increasing responsibilities supporting the congregation and would like to get more involved in missionary work in Mexico and possibly in Central America at some point in the future.

Juvenile Court Conducts its Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon

The Juvenile Court's annual Awards and Employee Recognition Luncheon was held at the Yuma First Assembly of God Church on January 29, 2016, featuring a tri-tip lunch.

Director Tim Hardy was the master of ceremonies, with Juvenile Court Judges Mark Wayne Reeves and Kathryn Stocking-Tate officiating.



Detention Officer the Year

David Reyes



Program of the Year:

Dependency Parent Support Program

Guillermo Gaton



The supervisor, department and program of the year are decided by a vote of the full management team, while the director selects his own special achievement awards.

Director's Special Achievement Awards:

Jolene Hefner, Deputy Director Leo Mendez, Deputy Director David Reyes, Detention Officer



The recipients of the awards for 2015 are:

the running for the yearly awards,

which are voted upon by all staff.



Supervisor of the Year

Ignacio Galindo Clerk's Office



Winner
Pagui Chip Challenge

Oscar Bendele



Employee of the Year

Bobby Guzman

Education Paraprofessional Aztec High School



CASA



Lisa Schaefer and Jennifer Sterenberg



Probation Officer of the Year

Amy Fischer

Years of Service

5 Years

Arturo Caro Juan Cortez-Ruiz Monica Pavon-Calderon

10 Years

Elizabeth Chairez-Acosta

15 Years

Steven Banuelos Stephanie Buthmann Johnna Byrd Henry Cabrera Claudia Felix Alex Godinez Julian Solorzano

30 Years

Cesar Figueroa Karen Hamby

Aztec High School Opens Inaugural Certified Nursing Assistant Class By: Steve Pallack

Aztec High School, partnering with ter. After several meetings Regional Center for Border Health, and much discussion, it is offering its first ever Certified Nursing Assistant class on campus would try and make a go this semester. The program evolved from a conversation between Director Tim Hardy and Judge Kathryn Stocking-Tate back in August.

It was there the seed was planted to work with the Regional Center, who was already offering a similar program, to try and do something to give the students at Aztec some self respect and discipline, and at the same time provide them with a step towards a successful future.

After that conversation, Mr. Hardy and Principal Steve Pallack discussed the possibilities of bringing this program to Aztec and then arranged to meet with Amanda Aguirre, the CEO of Regional Cenwas decided that Aztec of it for the second semester if enough student interest was there.

Mr. Pallack talked to many students, looking at attendance, grades, interest, and commitment. The program started out with eight girls. It has passed through many iterations,

and currently has six girls who have committed to complete the program.

The program has the girls attending their CNA class at Aztec all day Tuesday, and attending clinical practice at the Health Careers College in Somerton on Fridays. It is an impressive sight for the other students to see these girls dressed in the blue scrubs with



their stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, gait belt, and other materials as they arrive for class.

As the revised calendar has developed, the girls should be able to finish the program the week prior to graduation. They should all qualify to test with the State Board of Nursing for their Certified Nursing Assistant license. They will also be able to make use of the RCFBH with assistance in finding a job. This is a great program that is benefitting the students.

Aging to Perfection

Nicholas Herrera	Mar 1
Isaac Gonzalez	Mar 4
Rebecca Ghiotto	Mar 6
Steve Pallack	Mar 9
Francisco Esquivel	Mar 11
Monica Calderon	Mar 12
Stacy Davidson	Mar 12
Africa Carrasco	Mar 18
Patricia Hernandez	Mar 18
Claudia Rivas	Mar 25
Susan Taylor	Mar 27
Jose Fisher	Mar 30

Elizabeth Acosta	Mar 31
Stephanie Buthmann	Apr 11
Christina Charles	Apr 14
Tiffany Rankin	Apr 20
Daniel Salcido	Apr 22
Anita Salisbury	Apr 22
Maria Martinez	Apr 26



Jennifer Sterenberg	Apr 26
Jorge Nunez	Apr 30
Sylvia Teran	May 4
Melanie Rowe	May 6
Oscar Bendele	May 9
Victor Magana	May 13
Belinda Gill	May 15
Pamela Icedo	May 17
Elizabeth Hormaeche	May 18
Becky Leffler	May 19
James Franco	May 23
Pamela Teal	May 23

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Just the Facts - Did You Know That . . .?

- From September through December 2017, twenty-five representatives from every department in the Juvenile Court met on a regular basis to prepare a five-year extension to the agency's strategic plan. That completed strategic plan document, which is expected to help guide the Juvenile Court operations through 2022, has been uploaded to The Brief for viewing.
- In February of 2018, a third group of juveniles began participating in Successful Futures, an evidence-based life skills program for low to moderate risk youth, that is predicated upon the cultural framework of the Kids at Hope philosophy, including the four Kids at Hope destinations: Home and Family, Career and Education, Hobbies and Recreation, and Community and Service.
- With the implementation of the new statewide screening instrument (DSI), supervisors from probation and detention have been meeting each morning to review the status of youth detained since the day before. The meetings are used to review the use of the screening instrument, as well as adherence to the use of graduated responses as an alternative to detention.
- The Juvenile Court was awarded a grant by the Arizona State Courts, focused on addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R.E.D.) in the youth justice system. Technical assistance is being provided by the W. Hayward Burns Institute (BI). As part of this collaboration, the probation department has been collecting data to better understand the conditions of probation violated by youth in Yuma County.
- Since July of 2017, juveniles on intensive probation have been participating in the innovative Four Destinations program, which allows them to interact

- with their surveillance officers and a family support specialist in positive events related to the Four Destinations of Kids at Hope.
- Two times per month, officers of the probation department facilitate the Successful Parenting-Successful Children module to groups of parents—one in English one in Spanish. The sessions expose parents to the most accurate, evidence-based practical information about what children need from their parents and other caring adults in support of their social, intellectual, emotional and physical development.
- Staff of the Juvenile Court have begun participating in the Crossover Youth Practice Model initiative. Developed by Georgetown University, this model uses a research-based approach to assist child welfare, juvenile justice and related agencies in adopting policies and practices that better address the needs of youth involved simultaneously in both the dependency and probation systems.
- A youth who has been participating in the Aim for Success and Change Begins With Me programs will be graduating from both programs on Tuesday, March 6 at 3:00 p.m., beginning in Courtroom One and then moving to the Hope Assessment Center. Juvenile Court staff are encouraged to attend.
 - The probation department has scheduled its fourth kickball tournament for Saturday, April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Joe Orduno Park in San Luis, Arizona. Teams representing JIPS, standard probation, JUST, Drug Court and others will be made up of both probation staff and probationers. These pro-social activities provide a great opportunity for officers to interact in a different setting with the youth.





Detention Officer David Reyes, who is the 2017 Detention Officer of the Year, also received the Director's Special Achievement Award for painting the Kid at Hope and Treasure Hunter pledges on the wall in the Detention Training Room.

Aztec High School Conducts Its Winter **Graduation Ceremony**

Aztec High School celebrated its winter graduation on December 21, 2017 at the Yuma County Main Library with 16 of the 22 students who had met the requirements for graduation in attendance.

With a full house of family and friends, the festivities were kicked off by Aztec Principal Steve Pallack.

Featured speakers were Tim D. Hardy, the Superintendent of Aztec and Director of the Yuma County Juvenile Court, The Honorable Kathryn Stocking-Tate, Judge of the Juvenile Court; and Doug Nichols, the Mayor of Yuma; all providing messages to the graduates to celebrate their success.

Also in attendance were County Administrator Susan Thorpe, three



Front Row: Ashaley Sandoval, Cristal Gonzalez, Jackie Vasquez, Jesenia Santiago, Mirelia Hernandez, Vicente Granados, Jesus Guzman, Jessica Valdez. Back Row: Jose Aguilar, Ivan Escobedo, Raul Rosales, Joseph Nunez, Adrian Sandoval, Andrew Sandoval, Gerardo

members of the Aztec High School We are so proud of our "Kids at school board and a large number of Juvenile Court staff.

Hope" graduates. They exemplify the best of our school and our community.

Numbers That Matter

By: Maria Martinez

	Probation Fees Collected			Restitution Collected		
	November	December	January	November	December	January
Standard	\$ 3,710.00	\$ 3,177.00	\$ 4,137.50	\$ 190.00	\$ 1,902.00	\$ 12.50
JIPS	\$ 1,695.00	\$ 1,620.00	\$ 1,566.25	\$ 20.00	\$ 668.00	\$ 130.75
Diversion	\$ 1,375.00	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 1,715.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,016.25	\$ 416.14
Collections	\$ 85.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 188.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 80.34
Off Probation	\$ 925.00	\$ 690.00	\$ 765.00	\$ 587.16	\$ 289.32	\$ 245.00
Total	\$ 7,790.00	\$ 7,037.00	\$ 8,371.75	\$ 997.16	\$3,875.57	\$ 884.73

New Hires



Diamond Hooper Detention Officer I June 5



Victor MaganaDetention Officer Trainee
July 3



Maria ZepedaDetention Officer Trainee
July 3



Maria "Maggie" Godwin Courtroom Clerk I July 17



Mariano FloresDetention Officer Trainee
August 14



Darya "Sunni" EspinozaFinancial Services Supervisor
September 18



Carmen GardeaFamily Support Specialist
October 16



Gloria Varela Receptionist/Clerk January 2



Leslie Padilla-Ramirez Intern January 16



Tiffany Rankin Detention Officer I January 16

Promotions / Transfers



Keith WestmorelandDetention Officer II
June 11



Gabriela LachicaFamily Support Specialist
June 26



Emerson GreasonDetention Officer II
July 16



Ruben EsparzaFamily Support Specialist
October 9



Christina CharlesProbation Officer I
November 19



Rosalba Gomez Probation Officer I November 19



Victor MaganaDetention Officer I
January 3



Maria ZepedaDetention Officer I
December 19



Jose FisherDetention Officer II
February 25



Elizabeth HormaecheDetention Officer II
February 25

Yuma Loses a True Treasure Hunter With the **Passing of Geraldeane Knox**

Geraldeane "Dina" Knox, former elementary school teacher and long-time foster parent for the Juvenile Court, passed away on January 23 at the age of 73. But, the impact that she had, in both capacities, on the lives of youth in our community will not At the celebration of Dina's life on February soon be forgotten.

Dina was a deeply religious woman. After college, she served as a missionary in El Salvador, where she learned to speak fluent Spanish. Besides her regular teaching job, she gave piano lessons and was the pianist, organist, choir director and Sunday School teacher for her church

It was in the late 70's that Dina was first licensed as a foster parent by both Child Protective Services and the Juvenile Probation Department. Still working as a teacher in the Somerton School District, Dina began taking in young women from both agencies, many of whose lives were spiraling out of control. Dina gave them love, structure, education and purpose and, almost invariably, transformed their lives.

Recognizing her amazing success, the probation department eventually convinced Dina to give up her job with the school district and licensed her as a full-time therapeutic foster home. She was able to take in six girls at a time and there was always a waiting list.

Not only did Dina change the lives of these girls, she changed how the probation department and the juvenile court did business. Probation licensed four or five other homes, was regularly making its own placements, working hand-in-hand with the CPS foster home specialists, and even attending meetings of the Foster Care Review Board.

After about 15 years, Dina made the decision to go back to teaching. She left the foster care business behind, but not the more than 30 girls she had welcomed into

her home. She adopted one of the girls when she had no place else to go and adopted the son of another when that girl was unable to care for him.

17, they were all there, 25 years later, paying tribute to the woman who had changed the trajectories of the lives. And, giving the impassioned and emotional eulogy was her adopted son, Christopher, talking about the woman he called "Mom."

Of all the stories that could be told about the life of Dina Knox, there is one in particular that exemplifies how one person can make a difference in the life of another.

Roberta Duff was a 14 year old waif of a girl. She had lost her mother at the age of five and was living alone with her elderly, alcoholic, abusive father. She was in poor health, suffering from mononucleosis and severe asthma and, as she describes it, "just trying to stay alive."

Roberta was in a shelter facility as an incorrigible child, refusing to go home because she had been told it was the only way to force the state to help her. But, it was clear that Child Protective Services was intent on sending her back to her father.

What resulted, however, was one of those seminal moments that came to define the innovative attitude of the juvenile court in Yuma County. The probation department filed its own dependency petition and then supervised Roberta on protective supervision as a dependent child for the next four

The first order of business was to place her in Dina's home. Dina put a great deal of effort into getting Roberta's medical conditions under control, including many visits to the emergency room. Then Dina began working on the holes in Roberta's education and generally getting her life back on



Roberta Schamber and Dina Knox

course. This included her leaving Kofa High School after two years and graduating from Christian Life Academy, which was affiliated with Dina's church.

Roberta went on to graduate from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Secondary Education. She has been a teacher ever since.

In 2005, Roberta, then a fifth grade teacher in Prescott, Arizona, was named the Yavapai County Teacher of the Year. In her acceptance speech, she made it clear that Dina was her inspiration to become a teacher.

Roberta Duff Schamber, now 53, lives in Bellingham, Washington with her 12 year old daughter, Grace, whom she adopted at one year of age from Hunan Province in China. Roberta is an English Language Specialist, teaching second language learning for Kindergarten through fifth grade. She says that she is having a blast and cannot imagine doing anything else.

In describing the life of Geraldeane Knox, it seems appropriate to quote from the program that was given out at her celebration of life. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

The staff of The Express is looking for your suggestions on ways to improve the content of the newsletter, as well as ideas for upcoming issues. If you have any ideas or would like to submit a story, contact Leo Mendez at lmendez@courts.az.gov or Ben Rowe at browe@courts.az.gov, or any member of the newsletter committee.

